

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of the Petition of the  
Environmental Council of the City of  
Huntington Beach to Review Refusal  
of California Regional Water Quality  
Control Board, Santa Ana Region to  
Amend Order No. 72-46

Order No. WQ 73-14

BY THE BOARD:

On January 22, 1973 the Environmental Council of Huntington Beach (Council) petitioned the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review refusal of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (Regional Board), to amend Order No. 72-46 adopted November 30, 1972 prescribing waste discharge requirements for the Huntington Harbor Corporation (Salt Water Lake in Tract No. 7850). The requirements, in part, allow the discharge of street drainage, irrigation and storm runoff from the landscaped area in Tract No. 7850 to be discharged into an adjacent salt water harbor channel. The Council alleges that such a discharge will increase harbor pollution by 35% and suggests that the Regional Board should have required the drainage water from Tract No. 7850 to be collected and pumped into a county flood control channel.

In a subsequent letter dated February 15, 1973 the Council reduced the estimated increase in harbor pollution from 35% to 5% as a result of the discharge.

The State Board having reviewed the record before the Regional Board finds as follows:

1. Based upon the area of Tract No. 7850, other discharges to the harbor and the fact that even if the discharge were pumped to the flood control channel, approximately one-half of the drainage would return to the Huntington Channel system, the net increase in flow to the harbor as a result of Order No. 72-46 would be 1/2 of 1 percent of the existing flow.

2. The discharge would contain 1/150 of the nitrogen reaching the harbor and 1/30 of the phosphorus.

3. The cost of pumping the drainage to the flood control channel would be approximately \$100,000. This cost is not justified by the small effect of the discharge on the water quality and beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

4. The discharger's self-monitoring program and the Regional Board surveillance program are adequate to detect any problem which may later develop in connection with the discharge.

From the foregoing the Board concludes that Order No. 72-46 of the Regional Board is appropriate and proper.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the relief requested by the Environmental Council of the City of Huntington Beach is hereby denied.

Dated: May 17, 1973

*W. W. Adams*

W. W. Adams, Chairman

*Ronald B. Robie*

Ronald B. Robie, Vice Chairman

**ABSENT**

Roy E. Dodson, Member

*Mrs. Carl H. Auer*

Mrs. Carl H. (Jean) Auer, Member

*W. Don Maughan*

W. Don Maughan